

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-28 (Cancelled).

29. (Previously Presented) A medicinal aerosol steroid solution formulation metered dose inhaler product with enhanced chemical stability, including:

an aerosol container equipped with a metered dose dispensing valve and containing a medicinal aerosol formulation including a hydrofluoroalkane propellant selected from the group consisting of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane, 1,1,1,2,3,3-heptafluoropropane, and mixtures thereof, and having a 20-ketosteroid drug dissolved therein, which drug has an OH group at the C-21 position.

30. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 29, wherein said 20-ketosteroid has an OH group at the C-21 position, but not at the C-17 position.

31. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 29, wherein said 20-ketosteroid has an OH group at both the C-17 and C-21 positions.

32. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 29, wherein the 20-ketosteroid is dexamethasone.

33. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 29, wherein the 20-ketosteroid is betamethasone 17-valerate.

34. (Previously Presented) The product of any preceding claim wherein the container and/or the valve has a coating applied by vapor deposition.

35. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 34, wherein metal valve components have a coating applied by vapor deposition.

36. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 34 or 35, wherein the coating is a glass.

37. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 36, wherein the coating is applied by the Silcosteel process.

38. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers containing a solution of an active ingredient in a hydrofluorocarbon propellant, a co-solvent and optionally a low-volatility component characterized in that part or all of the internal surfaces of said inhalers consist of stainless steel, anodized aluminum or are lined with an inert organic coating.

39. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to claim 38, wherein the active ingredients are selected from β 2 agonists, steroids or anti-cholinergic agents and their combinations.

40. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to claim 39, wherein the active ingredient is ipratropium bromide, oxitropium bromide, tiotropium bromide, flunisolide, triamcinolone acetonide, fluticasone propionate, mometasone furoate, budesonide, ciclesonide, rofleponide and epimers thereof.

41. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to any of claims from 38 to 40, containing a low-volatility component selected from glycerol, polyethylene glycol and isopropyl myristate.

42. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to any of claims from 38 to 41, wherein the co-solvent is ethanol.

43. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to any of claims from 38 to 42, wherein the propellant is selected from HFA 227, HFA 134a and their mixtures.

44. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to any of claims 38 to 43 wherein the inert organic coating is perfluoroalkoxyalkane, epoxy-phenol resin or fluorinated-ethylenepropylene polyether sulfone.

45. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to any of claims 38 to 44 wherein part or all of the internal surfaces are coated with an epoxy phenol resin.

46. (New) Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to claims 38 to 43 wherein part or all of the internal surfaces consist of anodized aluminum.

47. (New) Stabilized aerosol solution formulation consisting of an active ingredient in a hydrofluorocarbon propellant, a co-solvent and optionally a low-volatility component for use in a pressurized metered dose inhaler as claimed in any of claims 38 to 46.

48. (New) Aerosol solution formulation of dexamethasone in a hydrofluorocarbon propellant and ethanol as a co-solvent, further comprising a low volatility compound selected from glycerol, isopropylmyristate and polyethylene glycol.